



VOLUNTEER PARK
PROGRAM, MASTER PLAN REVIEW AND ACTION PLAN

for the

CITY OF SEATTLE
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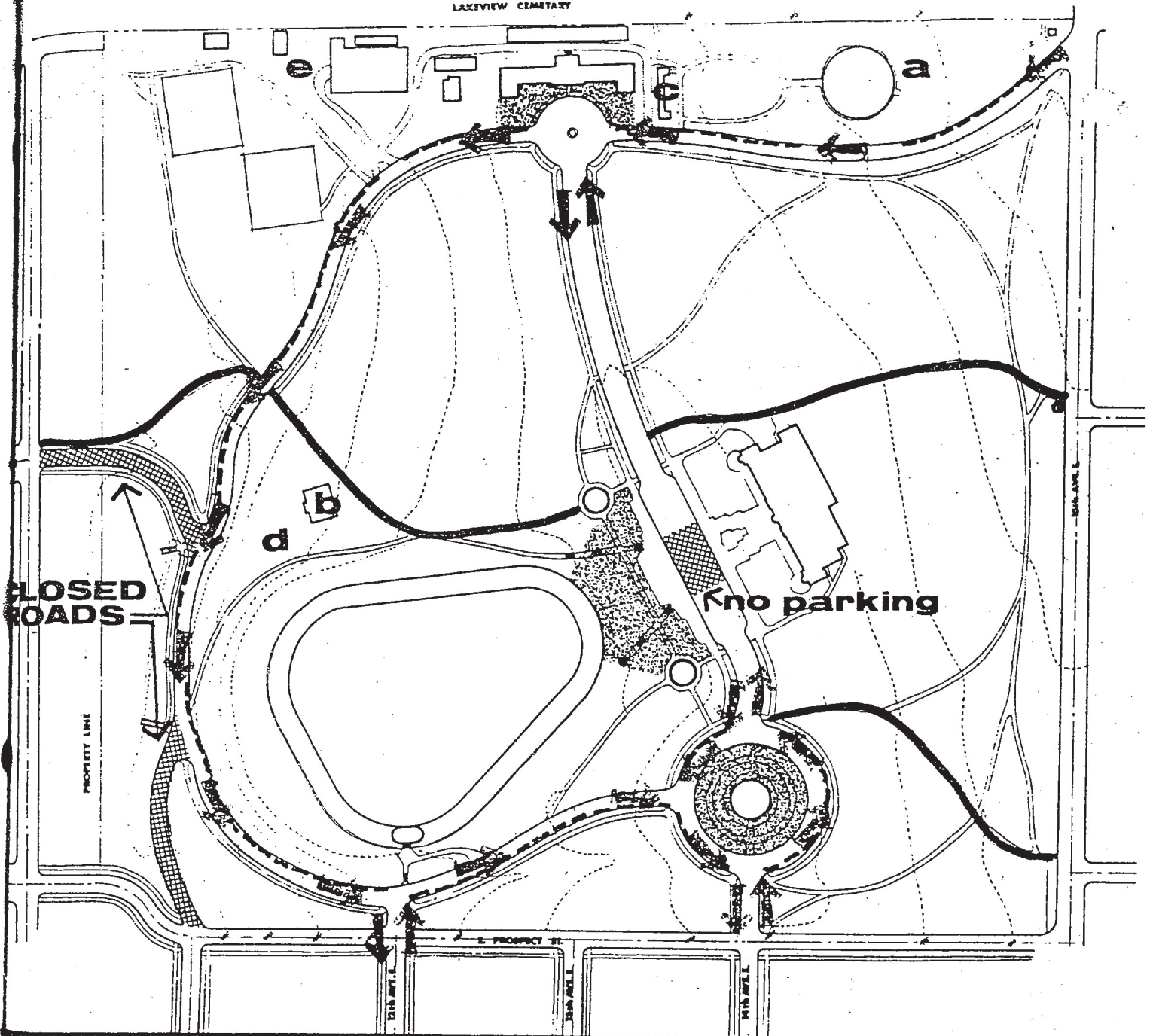
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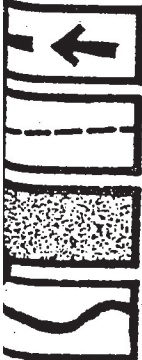
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Volunteer Park program, master plan review and action plan



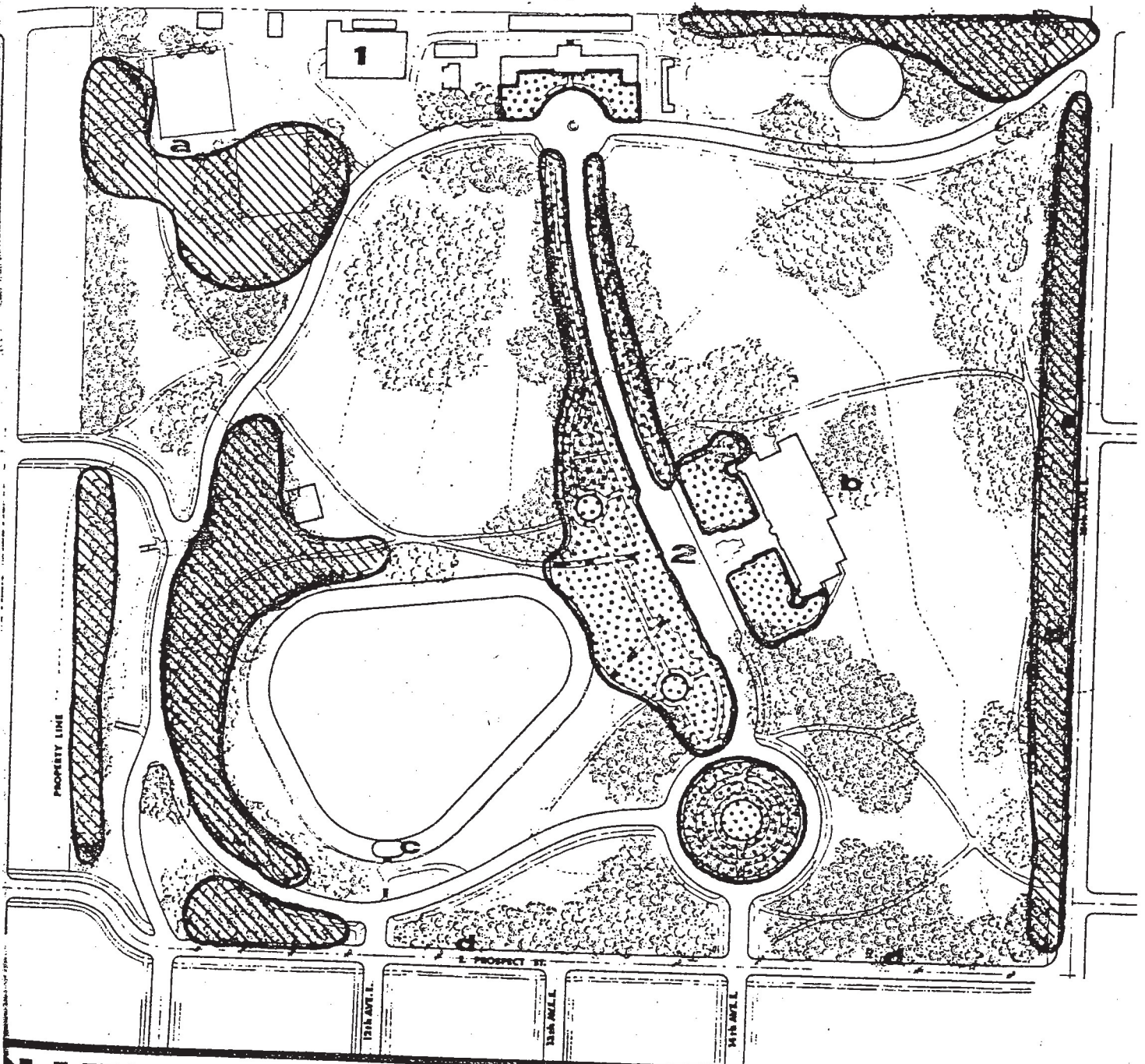
VOLUNTEER PARK MASTER PLAN/PHASE I



**ONE - WAY
STREET SYSTEM
PARALLEL
PARKING
IRRIGATION**

**PATH
LIGHTING**

- a. WADING POOL/CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA
- b. NEW CONCERT FACILITY
- c. RESTROOM REMODEL
- d. NEW RESTROOM
- e. SERVICE BUILDING



PLUNTEE PARK VEGETATION



1" = 50'-0"

WILD AREAS

**FORMAL AREAS
ENGLISH PICTURESQUE
STYLE**

1. BED PLANT NURSERY
2. CONCOURSE

2. Vegetation

The vegetation of the park is mature, with only a few isolated native trees showing signs of decline. The general planting scheme utilized native deciduous and coniferous materials as a skeleton, to which the majority of plants, mostly exotic, were added. (See Plate 2) The most notable planting is the Horse Chestnuts flanking the Concourse. These and the specimen redwoods and the cedars are in prime health. An inventory of existing trees and shrubs, their condition and life span, etc. would be of great value for insuring the preservation of the existing plant character. This would allow judicious new plantings to supplement those which will eventually decline.

The wildest and most formal plantations are also shown on Plate 2, with the remaining areas in an English Picturesque landscape style. The Victorian landscape, comprising the largest park area, is the dominant image of Volunteer Park. These classic spaces of broad rolling greensward are edged with low shrubs and tree masses which project from the borders. The formal plantings adjoin major buildings, the Concourse, and the east reservoir terraces. / These areas are characterized by clipped hedges, topiary work, exotic herbaceous plants, and annuals in planting beds. They represent the only appropriate areas in the park suitable for bed plantations. Existing beds should be removed from the lawns as per the 1909 plan and recommendations. Wild areas of native plants exist at the west bank of the reservoir and on the steep west slope as well as the northeast corner and park edge. The bedding plant nursery at the northwest park edge should be studied for possible location at a site less in demand for recreation activity than Volunteer Park.

Areas in need of immediate landscape attention are located on Plate 2. These are: a) The area of waste materials and brambles near the tennis courts. This neglected area should be recaptured to help relieve the over-saturation of the already developed areas. b) The lawn area east of the Museum needs re-seeding. c) The reservoir gate house area is awkward and unorganized. A fine old building such as this should be featured. d) The park edge along 15th Avenue E. needs more extensive screen and buffer planting to reduce the intrusion of traffic sight and sound. Street tree planting along the east side of 15th Avenue E. and E. Prospect Street should honor the original Olmsted plan. (See Plate 2 for location of a. through d.)

C. MASTER ACTION PLANS, SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND BUDGET AND PHASING

1. Master Action Plans

See Plates 7 and 8, Master Plan drawings.

2. Summary of Recommendations

The Master Plan review has resulted in a two phase Master Action Plan, containing the following recommendations approved by the City of Seattle Department of Parks and the Seattle Design Commission. These in order of importance by present demands are:

Phase I

- a. A children's play area with new play equipment and planting alterations in the northeast corner of the park where the children's wading pool is now located.
- b. A new or repaired wading pool to replace the sub-standard pool in the area designated as the children's play area.
- c. Lavatory facilities: The lavatories presently housed just west of the children's play area in the northeast corner of the park will be remodeled and a new restroom sited on the southwest park quadrant.
- d. All streets designated on the Master Action Plan, Phase I (see Plate 7) as one-way shall be posted. The one-way system will eliminate the use of the park as a thoroughfare from 15th Avenue E. to 10th Avenue E.
- e. Repair roadway lighting and provide selective pathway lighting.
- f. Existing cinder paths will be resurfaced to finish the partially completed path system.
- g. Irrigate formal planting areas.
- h. Remedial landscaping as recommended in Section B., 2. Vegetation should receive detailed design attention.
- i. Provide a new service/storage facility in the area of the existing service yard.
- j. A visual extension of the Seattle Art Museum's entry will be achieved initially by restricting parking in front of the Museum. This will redefine the Concourse and allow an unimpeded view of the panorama.

2. Summary of Recommendations (continued)

visible from the Museum entry. In Phase II this pedestrian space will be paved with stone similar to that of the Museum entry.

k. An interim concrete platform is planned to replace the existing wood bandstand. The platform to be accessible by ramp as to accommodate a mobile sound stage. The platform will be scored for board-type game activities.

Phase II

a. Add Wilkeson sandstone to street west of and adjoining the Museum entry completing the proposed pedestrian space.

b. Installation of a new automatic irrigation system is recommended for lawn areas.

c. Permanent concert facility installed.

d. Upgrade the existing greenhouse facilities and replace the worn equipment. Greenhouse expansion is advised by means of a new structure to the west of the present facility.

e. Reservoir cover to be designed as a shallow reflecting pool and the removal of the chain link fence will allow access.

f. Water tower should be maintained and repaired as necessary.

In addition to these specific recommendations the following supplementary studies are advised:

(1) Existing Planting Study; as described in Section B.,
2. Vegetation

(2) Lighting Study; as described in Section B., 3. Utilities and Construction

(3) Landscape Features Study; as described in Section B.,
3. Utilities and Construction

(4) Peripheral Parking Study; as described in Section B.,
4. Circulation/Parking